United States

Non-denominational Letter (Alphabet)

'A'

Eagle Rate Change Stamp

Two Way Misperf

Verticle Imperf Pair

In 1975, the Post Office Department produced the "A" Eagle stamps for a rate change. The proposed two–rate structure for which they were intended was ultimately turned down and the "A" Eagles were stored until 1978. A rate increase of 2c was proposed and approved in late May of 1978. There was insufficient time to print large numbers of 15c definitives before the change went into effect, so the "A" Eagle stamps were brought out of storage and used until adequate quantities of 15c definitives could be printed.

- First Day of issue was May 22, 1978 in Memphis, Tennessee.
- Designer was Bradbury Thompson.
- Color, Orange.
- Issued in Sheets, Coils, Booklets and Embossed Envelopes.
- Image area were .75 x .87 inches or 19.05 x 22.098 millimeters.
- There was only one plate number per sheet, sheet stamps only.
- There were 100 Stamps per sheet, 24 stamps per booklet in three panes of 8, and Coils were issued in rolls of 100, 500 and 3000.
- Selvage markings "Mail Early in the Day", "Use Zip Code", and "Mr. Zip".
- There was no First Day Ceremony, therefore no ceremony programs exist.

This is a collection of First Day Covers, in alphabetical order by Cachet Designer, starting with Sheet stamps then Booklets on to Coils and lastly the Embossed Envelopes.

Next will be Combination covers ie, more than one format on each cover followed by non-official first day covers, which are from cities other than the First Day City but with the same date.

The last section has a couple of examples of postally used envelopes showing their usage at that time.

Postmarks used on the covers are either the small machne cancels or the larger hand cancels. Other Special or unusual marking, signatures, perforations or quantities are printed in red to identify their scarcity.